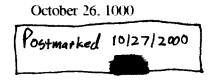
Mr. Michael K. Buckley, P.E. Mr. Doug Bellomo, P.E. Federal Emergency Management Agency 500 C Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20472



Regarding: Flood Insurance Maps (FIRMs) for Richland and Lexington Counties and incorporated areas, South Carolina - Citizen Appeals

Dr. Mr. Buckley and Mr. Bellomo:

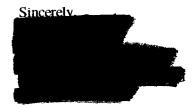
When FEMA amended its proposed flood maps on September 26, 2000, FEMA also announced that it would accept additional information for 30 days. We are submitting this letter in response to that opportunity.

We signed the Citizen Appeal. We have enjoyed living in Richland County for 33 years. One of our four children attended Heathwood Hall School (in the floodplain, with numerous floodplain repercussions), and our boys have paddled the Congaree River many times, and we live on Lake Murray in Richland County.

FEMA and DNR have both been very good citizens while coping with the Congaree issues. We commend FEMA for taking this opportunity to update their analytical tools and use good science. FEMA decisions have been made based on facts and historical experience. On the other hand, the developers have demonstrated a bias toward gamesmanship, upon raw political power, backroom deals, and innuendo - all while ignoring technical realities.

The developers have complained repeatedly that FEMA has ignored the developers' recently submitted "technical information." We consider this most recent information as more innuendo. The properts that he has spoken with FERC, and has learned that the Lake Murray dam is now 16 feet higher than it was when originally constructed that the Lake Murray dam is makes one of his now-famous leaps to report that therefore the dam can hold a the associated acre-feet of water and in doing so protect the development he proposes in the Congaree floodplain. He specifically even includes the two foot splash guard installed ten years ago from corrugated metal to protect the back side of the earthen dam during heavy wind and rains!

We drive over the dam on our way to work, and every day we consider this claim to be even more absurd than any of previous nonsequiturs. Please review the USGS 7.5 minute topographical quadrangle maps available digitally through SCDNR at http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/water/nrima/gisdata/. Even if SCE&G and FERC were to judge this proposed dam management plan as reasonable in terms of dam safety (which they have not), the additional 16 feet would take the Lake to 376 feet. This plan would flood the fish camps near Black's Bridge at the upper end of the Lake, most of the older homes and many of the newer homes along the perimeter of the Lake, including our home and our neighbors' homes and three sailing clubs. Congressman Floyd Spence's home and thousands of other homes will be affected perhaps by flooding and certainly through flooded access.



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